



February – Black History Month 2011 Theme - African Americans and the Civil War



Black History Month is a month set aside to learn, honor, and celebrate the achievements of black men and women throughout history. Since its inception, Black History Month has always been celebrated in February.

The origins of Black History Month can be traced back to a man named Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950). Woodson, the son of former slaves, was an amazing man in his own right. Since his family was too poor to send him to school as a child, he taught himself the basics of a school education. At age 20, Woodson was finally able to attend high school, which he completed in just two years. He then went on to earn a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Chicago. In 1912, Woodson became only the second African American to earn a doctorate from Harvard University.

Woodson chose the second week of February to celebrate Negro History Week because that week included the birthdays of two important men: President Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14). When Negro History Week turned into Black History Month in 1976, the celebrations during the second week of February expanded to the entire month of February.

Black History Month: *Additional Resources*

[Puzzles for Black History Month](#) / [Children's Books for Black History Month](#) / [Essay Topics for Black History Month](#) / [African Americans and the Civil War](#)

See also: [100 Famous African Americans](#) / [Notable African American Women](#) / [African American Inventors](#) / [Famous Black Musicians](#) / [Timeline of Black Political History](#) / [Black History Articles](#) / [Memorable Quotes by Remarkable Black Musicians](#) / [Black History Month - The Origins](#) / [Black History in the National Parks - Celebrate Black History Month](#) / [Black History Month](#)

"A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song." Maya Angelou

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It offers abstracts of, and links to, current articles from U.S. publications and by U.S. authors, highlighting significant issues in international or U.S. domestic affairs. Views expressed in the items cited are those of authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

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[Environment/Energy](#)
[Society](#)
[Education](#)
[Business](#)
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[Comms/Info.Tech](#)
[The Arts/Culture](#)

The State of the Union 2011: Winning the Future - Read Transcript / Listen

The State of the Union 2011 – a selection of RAND publications which address themes raised by President Obama in his 2011 State of the Union speech.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Obama Administration's Foreign Policy Priorities Briefing by Michael Hammer, National Security Council spokesman, at the Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State, in New York City, January 12, 2011.

Engagement with Muslim Communities around the World Briefing by Farah Anwar Pandith, Special Representative, U.S. Dept of State, at the Foreign Press Center, *U.S. Dept of State*, January 28, 2011.

Back to Normalcy: Is America Really in Decline? by Paul Kennedy. *The New Republic* online, December 21, 2010. There is **an opposing view** by Michael Auslin.

The Political Power of Social Media: Technology, the Public Sphere, and Political Change by Clay Shirky in *Foreign Affairs*, January-February 2011.

Discussion of the political impact of social media has focused on the power of mass protests to topple governments. In fact, social media's real potential lies in supporting civil society and the public sphere – which will produce change over years and decades, not weeks or months.

Why Our Best Officers are Leaving by Tim Kane in *The Atlantic*, January/February.

An exclusive survey of West Point graduates shows that Officers are leaving – but not just for the money. Increasingly, the military is creating a command structure that rewards conformism and ignores merit. As a result, it's losing its vaunted ability to cultivate entrepreneurs in uniform.

Leading through Civilian Power: The First Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review Remarks by Anne-Marie Slaughter, Director, Policy Planning Staff, *U.S. Dept of State*, January 27, 2011.

The Role of Women in Global Security by Valerie Norville. *U.S. Institute of Peace*, January 2011. 16p.

The Middle East

President Obama on the Situation in Egypt: "All Governments Must Maintain Power through Consent, Not Coercion" *The White House*, January 28, 2010.

The President urges the Egyptian government to show restraint and address legitimate grievances.

President Obama's First Two Years in the Middle East by David Schenker. *Washington Institute for Near East Policy*, December 27, 2010.

Briefing on Steps the U.S. State Department is Taking to Assist U.S. Citizens in Egypt *U.S. Dept of State*, January 30, 2011.

Brookings – Egypt / Council on Foreign Relations – Egypt / U.S. Embassy Cairo - the unfolding situation.

The Middle East: Selected Key Issues and Options for the 112th Congress by Casey L. Addis et al. *CRS*, January 3, 2011. 20p.

The Middle East presents an array of challenges to U.S. foreign policy. Although the United States maintains strong relations with several key Arab and non-Arab states such as Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Turkey, other state and non-state actors, such as Iran, the Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Palestinian Sunni group Hamas, are aligned against U.S. interests. The U.S. and its regional and international allies continue to work to limit the influence of these actors while advocating for economic and political reform to address ongoing socioeconomic challenges and to promote democracy and a greater respect for human rights in the region.

The Rise and Fall of Political Reform in the Arab World by Marina Ottaway in *Current History*, December.

Evidence from Egypt and Iraq bolsters the view that reform depends not on formal institutions and procedures, but on internal power dynamics, as Ottaway predicted.

Can Tunisia Spark a Revolutionary Wave? by Deborah Jerome. *CFR*, January 18, 2011.

The overthrow of Tunisia's government last week in what has been dubbed a Jasmine Revolution has reverberated throughout the region and has left Tunisia itself in a state of political turbulence. In the wake of the ouster of Tunisian President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali are two questions: Is Tunisia's example likely to spark comparable uprisings across the Arab world? And will democracy take root in Tunisia?

What's Next for Tunisia? by Haim Malka. *CSIS*, January 20, 2011.

Tunisia remains in a state of emergency. The 23-year rule of Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali, one of the Arab world's most ruthless and efficient autocrats, has crumbled, it remains unclear what kind of governing system will take his place. Tunisia's new government, when it emerges, may be more representative and less repressive, but that will take time. Tunisia's interim rulers are faced with the immediate tasks. How this interim government navigates this delicate balance and sets the new rules of the game will have a major impact on the future direction of Tunisia.

Country Analysis Briefs: United Arab Emirates *Energy Information Administration*. January 2011. 9p.

The *United Arab Emirates (UAE)* is a federation of seven different emirates which together comprise the third largest economy in the Middle East behind Saudi Arabia and Iran. Its per capita GDP is second only to Qatar. The UAE is an important producer of natural gas and oil, ranking seventh globally in total proven reserves of both. Abu Dhabi possesses the majority of oil and natural gas reserves followed by Dubai. The country is also a member of the *Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)*.

The Arab World's "Unprecedented" Protests Interview with Robert Danin. *CFR*, January 28, 2011.

Don't Fear Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood by Bruce Riedel. *Brookings*, January 28, 2011.

The Conflicts in Yemen and U.S. National Security by W. Andrew Terrill. *SSI*, January 2011. Note: 120p.

Iraq Struggles to Govern Itself by Daniel Sewer in *Current History*, December 2010.

When the prolonged power struggle in Baghdad finally ends, the outcome could be a Shiite-dominated government that alienates Sunnis and befriends Tehran, Serwer warns.

Afghanistan at the Breaking Point by Gilles Dorronsoro. *CEIP*, November 2010. 51p. **Summary**

Afghanistan and Pakistan 2010 Review by William B. Taylor. *USIP*, December 2010.

An Overview of the Afghanistan and Pakistan Annual Review *The White House*, December 16, 2010. See also a **statement by President Obama**

Remarks by U.S. Vice President Biden at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council, December 15, 2010 (on Iraq). A State Department fact sheet on the **UN Security Council High Level Meeting on Iraq**

Review Won't Alter Pakistan's Behavior "First take" analysis by Daniel Markey. *CFR*, December 16, 2010.

Pentagon Seeks Biggest Budget Cuts Since Before 9/11 *New York Times* online, January 6, 2011.

U.S.-China Relations

A Broad Vision of U.S.-China Relations in the 21st Century Address by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in inaugural Richard C. Holbrooke Lecture, January 14, 2011.

Remarks by President Obama and President Hu of China in official arrival ceremony, at the White House January 19, 2011

Press Conference with President Obama and President Hu of China January 19, 2011

Remarks by President Obama and President Hu in a roundtable with American and Chinese Business leaders January 19, 2011.

First Lady Michelle Obama Urges American Youth to Strengthen U.S.-China Ties *White House, Office of the First Lady*, January 19, 2011. **The First Lady's remarks**

Interview of U.S. Secretary of State Clinton with Emma Wu of CCTV, January 18, 2011.

U.S.-China Economic Issues Fact sheet. *The White House*, January 19, 2011.

U.S.-China Commercial Relations Fact sheet. *The White House*, January 19, 2011.

China-U.S. Trade Issues CRS, January 7, 2011.

Assessing China's Behavior and its Impact on U.S. Interests Hearing before the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, January 19, 2011. For **transcripts**, and scroll down.

Chinese Military Modernization: The Future Is Arriving Much Sooner Than Expected by Dean Cheng. *Heritage*, December 30, 2010.

East Asia

After the U.S.-China Summit: The Onus on the Two Koreas by Ho-Jin Lee. *Brookings*, January 24, 2011.

Precarious Balancing Act on the Korean Peninsula by Scott A. Snyder. *CFR*, December 20, 2010.

East Asia and the Pacific on *America.gov*

Some online resources which may be of interest:

50 Years of Making an Impact USAID, January 19, 2011 (re the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps).

The Obama Administration's Priorities in South and Central Asia Address by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert O. Blake, Jr., in Houston, January 19, 2011.

Current Global Events and Issues Briefing by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Philip J. Crowley at the Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State, January 20, 2011.

Piracy Reached Record Level in 2010, Monitors Say *New York Times* online, January 18, 2011. **The report**

Maritime Security: Federal Agencies Have Taken Actions to Address Risks Posed by Seafarers, but Efforts Can Be Strengthened Report. *GAO*, January 2011. 78p. (seafarer identification, etc.)

Time for Diplomatic Offensive Against Iran "First take" by Matthew Fuhrmann, *CFR*, January 21, 2011.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE): Issues for U.S. Policy CRS, December 7, 2010.

Letter from President Obama Concerning the Consolidated War Powers Report December 15, 2010.

U.S.-Russia Nuclear Cooperation. Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller et al. at Council on Foreign Relations, January 13, 2011 (interview). **Video**

Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA): What Is it, and How Has it Been Utilized? CRS, January 5, 2011.

U.S. Government Policy in Africa: A Look at the Year Ahead Briefing by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Bruce Wharton, at the Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State, January 19, 2011.

TRADE / ECONOMY

International Trade and Finance: Key Policy Issues for the 112th Congress CRS, Dec., 30, 2010. 27p.

The 112th Congress faces a full agenda of international trade and finance issues. Early in 2011, the Obama Administration is expected to ask Congress to approve a free trade agreement (FTA) with South Korea and possibly FTAs with Colombia and Panama. The Administration is seeking to conclude the much larger ten year-old World Trade Organization's (WTO) Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which, if completed, would also require congressional approval. The Administration is also negotiating a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, a regional FTA that currently includes nine countries on both sides of the Pacific.

Economy Dominates Public's Agenda, Dims Hopes for the Future Pew Research Center, January 20, 2011. 37p. **Summary**

The public's policy agenda is again dominated by the economy and jobs while other major issues are seen as less important.

Free Trade Agreements: Impact on U.S. Trade & Implications for U.S. Trade Policy CRS, Jan., 6, 2011.

The 112th Congress and the Obama Administration face the question of whether and when to act on three pending FTAs. On November 14, 2009, President Obama committed to work with the current and prospective members the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (TPP). The TPP is a free trade agreement that includes nations on both sides of the Pacific. The TPP, which originally came into effect in 2006, currently includes Brunei, Chile, New Zealand, and Singapore. Besides the United States, Australia, Peru, and Vietnam have also expressed interest in joining.

Some Trade/Economics resources which may be of interest:

The World Economic Forum, Davos 2011

Trade Primer: Qs and As on Trade Concepts, Performance, and Policy CRS, January 5, 2011.

TPP and Fast-Track Negotiating Authority for Trade Agreements: Major Votes January 12, 2011.

The Top Economic Stories of 2010 Brookings, December 23, 2010.

Economic Recovery: Sustaining U.S. Economic Growth in Post-Crisis U.S. Economy CRS, Dec., 2, 2010.

Principles and Guidelines for Deficit Reduction by Joseph E. Stiglitz. *Roosevelt Institute*, December 2, 2010. 9p.

Economic Freedom and Employment Growth in U.S. States by Thomas A. Garrett & Russell M. Rhine. Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis, *Review*, January-February 2011. 18p.

Regulatory Reform: Communications with the Public A web page of the U.S. Federal Reserve.

The Federal Reserve's Asset Purchase Program Speech by Janet L. Yellen, Vice Chair, *U.S. Federal Reserve*, January 8, 2011.

Good News, Bad News in 2010 Color Outlook for 2011 Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, *EconSouth*, Fourth Quarter 2010. 6p.

Debating a New Role for the Fed Backgrounder by Roya Wolverson. *CFR*, January 4, 2011.

Activist Fiscal Policy by Alan J. Auerbach et al. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Fall 2010. 24p. **Summary**

The Outlook for Agribusiness and its Impact on the Global Economy by Brian C. Briggeman. *Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City*, December 9, 2010. 14p.

Outlook for 2011: From Fragile Recovery to Firmer Expansion. *Fannie Mae*, January 10, 2011.
Listen / see **table** / **news release**, January 18, 2011.

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

Briefing on the UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun Briefing by Todd Stern, U.S. Special Envoy for Climate Change, December 14, 2010.

USDA Climate Change Science Plan U.S. Dept of Agriculture (USDA), November 2010. 25p.

The New Energy Conversation by Rob Atkinson et al. on *Innovation.org*

Atkinson and friends believe that the time has come for a fresh start on energy policy and a new drive for energy innovation. They look beyond fossil energy, which fueled security and prosperity for more than a century, to the new, cleaner technologies we need for the years to come, and call for a robust, bipartisan commitment to an energy strategy based on innovation.

Ten Myths of Addressing Global Warming and the Green Economy by Rob Atkinson & Darrene Hackler. ITIF, June 2010.

If we are to effectively address climate change while at the same time become globally competitive in the clean energy industry, policies need to be guided by careful and reasoned analysis.

Creating a Clean Energy Century by Joshua Reed & Sam Hodas. *Third Way*, 2011.

This Energy Innovation Project makes a sustained case for American clean energy innovation as a key to driving private sector economic growth and transforming how the country produces and consumes energy.

Dirty Coal, Clean Future by James Fallows in *The Atlantic*, December 2010.

Fallows, a national correspondent for *The Atlantic*, discusses why the dirtiest of today's main energy sources – dirt, sooty, toxic coal – is the only way to meet the world's energy needs – and to arrest climate change before it produces irreversible cataclysm.

Energy Innovation: Driving Technology Competition and Cooperation Among the United States, China, India, and Brazil by Michael Levi et al. CFR, November, 2010.

Low-carbon technology innovation and diffusion are seen as essential aspects of an effective response to climate change. This report zeros in on a critical tension: the United States' interests in encouraging the spread of technology to reduce emissions can clash with efforts to strengthen its own economy.

Consumption, Not CO2 Emissions: Reframing Perspectives on Climate Change and Sustainability by Robert Harriss & Bin Shui in *Environment*, November/December.

As a society we face many problems and challenges in trying to craft a more sustainable future. The authors show how carbon is embedded in the global consumer society and argue that we must take this carbon source into account and reframe the debate over climate change.

Sustainable Cities: Oxymoron or the Shape of the Future? by Annissa Alussi et al. Harvard Business School, January 2011. 26p.

According to the authors, two trends are likely to define the 21st century: threats to the sustainability of the natural environment and dramatic increases in urbanization. The authors review the goals, business models, and partnerships involved in eight early "ecocity" projects to begin to identify success factors in this emerging industry. Ecocities, for the most part, are viewed as a means of mitigating threats to the natural environment while creating urban living capacity by combining principles of green building with the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to better manage complex urban systems.

Some environmental resources which may be of interest:

Do Roads Pay for Themselves? Setting the Record Straight on Transportation Funding U.S. PIRG Education Fund, January 2011. 45p. **Summary**

U.S. Deepwater Drilling's Future Backgrounder by Toni Johnson, *CFR*, January 7, 2011.

Public Transportation: Transit Agencies' Actions to Address Increased Rider Demand and Options to Help Meet Future Demand GAO, November 2010. 64p.

Nuclear Cooperation With Other Countries CRS, January 11, 2011.

Natural Hazards, Unnatural Disasters: The Economics of Effective Prevention World Bank and United Nations, November 2010. Note: 280p. **Summary**

Biotech Forests: An Environmental Blessing? National Center for Policy Analysis, December 14, 2010. 2p. See also **Brief Analysis**

Clean Air Act: A Summary of the Act and Its Major Requirements CRS, January 6, 2011.

Methane Capture: Options for Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction CRS, January 7, 2011.

SOCIETY

Announcement of U.S. Support for the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples U.S. Dept. of State, December 16, 2010.

In announcing initiatives to promote the government-to-government relationship & improve the lives of indigenous peoples, President Obama recommitted to supporting tribal self-determination, security and prosperity for all Native Americans, recognizing that "while we cannot erase the scourges or broken promises of our past, we will move ahead together in writing a new, brighter chapter in our joint history."

Social Offerings, Openness Key to Community Attachment Gallup, November 15, 2010.

A community's social offerings, openness, aesthetics, and education are the most likely elements to affect residents' attachment to it, according to a three-year study conducted by Gallup .

Global Aging and the Crisis of the 2020s by Richard Jackson & Neil Howe. CSIS, January 4, 2011.

From the fall of the Roman and the Mayan empires to the Black Death to the colonization of the New World and the youth-driven revolutions of the twentieth century, demographic trends have played a decisive role in many of the great invasions, political upheavals, migrations, and environmental catastrophes of history. By the 2020s, an ominous new conjuncture of demographic trends may once again threaten widespread disruption. The report discusses global aging, which is likely to have a profound effect on economic growth, living standards, and the shape of the world.

Some online resources which may be of interest:

2011 Statistical Abstract of the United States Census Bureau, January 6, 2011.

2010 Poll Findings That Will Matter in 2011 by Andrew Kohut. Pew Research Center, December 30, 2010.

A Sampling of New U.S. State Laws Which Take Effect January 1, 2011

Who Is Poor? A New Look at the Supplemental Poverty Measure by Kathleen S. Short. Census Bureau, December 20, 2010. 28p.

Baby Boomers Approach Age 65 – Glumly: Survey Findings about America's Largest Generation Pew Research Center, December 20, 2010.

Prisoners in 2009 Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept of Justice, December 2010. 38p.

Correctional Populations in the United States, 2009 Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Justice, December 2010. 8p.

Juror Behavior in the Information Age Literature review by Ken Strutin. LLRX.com, December 26, 2010. [re issues such as juror misbehavior and the internet].

Toward a Comparison of DNA Profiling and Databases in the United States and England RAND, December 2010. 34p. **Summary**

Probation and Parole in the United States, 2009 Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept of Justice, December 2010. 44p.

Trends in Drug and Alcohol Use Among U.S. Teens: news release, December 14, 2010, about the latest **Monitoring the Future data** December 14, 2010.

Drug Courts: Background, Effectiveness, and Policy Issues for Congress CRS, October 12, 2010.

Victims of Identity Theft, 2008 Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept of Commerce, December 2010.

Civil Liberties and National Security Hearing before a subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, December 9, 2010. **Press release**

A Profile of Disconnected Young Adults in 2010 National Center for Children in Poverty, December 2010. 16p. **Summary**

The Transition to Adulthood: How States Can Support Older Youth in Foster Care National Governors Association, December 2010. 44p.

A Primer on Social Security Systems and Reforms by Craig P. Aubuchon et al. Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis, Review, January-February 2011. 18p.

Social Security and Medicare Taxes and Benefits over a Lifetime by C. Eugene Steuerle & Stephanie Rennane. The Urban Institute, January 2011. 5p.

Global Aging and the Crisis of the 2020s by Neil Howe & Richard Jackson. Current History, January 2011. 6p. **Summary**

Top Issues Facing Social Security Administration Management – Fiscal Year 2011 SSA Commissioner's memorandum to Inspector General, December 1, 2010. 15p.

The Essentials: Adult Day Services MetLife, 2010. 24p.

Executive Order: White House Council for Community Solutions White House, December 14, 2010.

EDUCATION

The Nation's Report Card: Math, 2009

Nationally representative samples of more than 49,000 twelfth-graders participated in the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in mathematics. Results were reported for students attending public and private schools across America. The results: The average mathematics score in 2009 was three points higher than in 2005; average mathematics scores were higher overall in 2009 than in 2005 for all racial/ethnic groups; and the percentages of students at or above *Proficient* (26%) and at or above *Basic* (64%) were higher in 2009 than in 2005.

Where is the Learning? Measuring Schooling Efforts in Developing Countries by Jacques van der Gaag & Anda Adams. Brookings, November 2010. 17p.

Around the world, there have been major gains in primary school enrollment partly due to the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals and the abolition of school fees by many national governments. However in many countries, students are spending years in school without learning core competencies, such as reading and writing. To address this learning crisis, the global community and national governments need to place a much greater focus on the ultimate objective of education—to acquire knowledge and develop skills.

Some educational resources which may be of interest:

How to Spend \$100 Million to Really Save Education by Anya Kamenetz in *Fast Company*, January 12, 2011.

K-12 Education: Many Challenges Arise in Educating Students Who Change Schools Frequently GAO, November 2010.

BUSINESS

New Decade, New Hopes for Job Growth by Michael Greenstone & Adam Looney. *Brookings*, January 7, 2011.

The December employment number released by the U.S. Department of Labor, show signs of improvement in the labor market as the economy added 103,000 jobs. While this is encouraging after November's disappointing growth, this is not large enough to absorb new entrants and make a dent in the "job gap," explained in the report. However, unemployment did fall to 9.4%.

What We Know: Turning Organizational Knowledge into Team Performance HBS, January 15, 2010.

Examines how teams draw on knowledge resources in the firm in the production of novel output. Drawing on information processing theory, the authors distinguish between a team's *knowledge repository use* and *concentration of use*, finding that in some cases the effects of both repository use and concentration of repository use are greater when teams are dispersed geographically or encounter changing tasks, showing how organizational knowledge resources can improve knowledge workers' productivity and help build organizational capability.

Some business resources which may be of interest:

Economics and National Security: Issues and Implications for U.S. Policy CRS, January 4, 2011. 82p.

The Modern Development Enterprise Address by Rajiv Shah, Administrator, *U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)*, at the Center for Global Development, January 19, 2011. **Highlights of the speech**

The President's Regulatory Strategy Fact Sheet *The White House*, January 18, 2011. **Presidential Memorandum**

State of the American Workforce Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce*, January 26, 2011.

Job Creation on a Budget: How Regional Industry Clusters Can Add Jobs, Bolster Entrepreneurship, and Spark Innovation by Mark Muro & Kenan Fikri. *Brookings*, January 19, 2011.

New Decade, New Hopes for Job Growth by Michael Greenstone & Adam Looney. *Brookings*, Jan., 2011.

Bringing Work Home: Implications for BLS Productivity Measures Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), U.S. Dept of Labor, *Monthly Labor Review*, December 2010.

Organizational Change is Dead – *BlogPost* in *Fast Company*, January 12, 2010.

The Consequences of Metropolitan Manufacturing Decline: Testing Conventional Wisdom Metropolitan Policy Program, *Brookings*, December 2010. 28p. **Summary**

Work Experience of the Population, 2009 *Bureau of Labor Stat., U.S. Dept of Labor*, Dec., 8, 2010. 9p.

Younger, Less Educated Lead Job Gains since September *Gallup*, December 3, 2010.

Women in the Labor Force: A Databook *Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor*, December 2010.

Startups: So Easy, a Child Can Do It in *Fast Company*, January 12, 2011.

MEDIA

Internet Gains on Television as Public's Main News Source *Pew Research Center for the People & the Press*. January 4, 2011. 9p.

The internet is slowly closing in on television as Americans' main source of national and international news. Currently, 41% say they get most of their news about national and international news from the internet, which is little changed over the past two years but up 17 points since 2007. Television remains the most widely used source for national and international news – 66% of Americans say it is their main source of news – but that is down from 74% three years ago and 82% as recently as 2002.

Secrecy and Journalism in the New Media Age by Kathleen Carroll, et al. *Nieman Foundation for Journalism*, Harvard University, December 16, 2010.

The role of journalism in an era of self-publishing and whistle-blowing websites such as WikiLeaks was at the core of discussions at a conference hosted by the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. Watch videos of the sessions and read the day's blogs and tweets as journalists from around the world discussed how secrets are investigated, shared and filtered (or not), and what journalism's role traditionally has been and what it can or should be in this new environment. *Note: Video only; no transcript.*

How WikiLeaks Affects Journalism Interview with C.W. Anderson of the New America Foundation. *CFR*, December 29, 2010.

Anderson examines the impact of WikiLeaks story on the traditional news media and the challenges journalists face from online groups that do not share their views on transparency.

Battening Down the Hatches, Circling the Wagons: The WikiLeaks Effect on the Public Diplomacy of Internet Advocacy by Monroe Price in *The Huffington Post*, December 7, 2010. 2p.

The author, a director of Center for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School, analyzes the impact of WikiLeaks on the future of the internet and its implications for national security.

WikiLeaks and Challenges to Internet Freedom by Adam Segal. *CFR*, December 17, 2010. 4p.

The author, the Ira A. Lipman Senior Fellow for Counterterrorism and National Security Studies, discusses the WikiLeaks controversy and challenges to internet freedom, and explores the responsibilities of private companies in control of what is now considered public space.

Retreating From the World by Jodi Enda in *AJR*, Winter 2010.

Many outlets have shuttered overseas bureaus. But NPR has completely bucked the trend to trim, its foreign bureaux have mushroomed from 6 to 17 and it also has part-time correspondents elsewhere.

The Fact Checking Explosion by Cary Spivak in *AJR*, Winter 2010.

Truth-squad operations are here to stay says Spivak, as credibility around stories becomes important at more and more news outlets.

Navigating the Future by Larry Kramer in *AJR*, Winter, 2010.

A newspaper guy turned successful new-media entrepreneur says it's unlikely that one overarching new business model will emerge for journalism in the digital age. Instead, look for a collection of improvised arrangements based on the lucky alignment of buyers' and sellers' needs.

News Frontier Database – documentation of digital news outlets across the United States. More information about this **new project**

COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Social Side of the Internet *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, January 18, 2011. 40p.

It's affecting the way civic and social groups behave and the way they impact their communities.

Spectrum Policy in the Age of Broadband *Issues for Congress. CRS*, January 7, 2011.

The convergence of wireless telecommunications technology with the Internet Protocol (IP) is fostering new generations of mobile technologies.

7 Tips to Writing a Blog Post That's Scannable: Creating Easy-to-Read Blog Posts by Susan Gunelius, on *About.com*

8% of Online Americans Use Twitter *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, December 9, 2010. 20p.

Internet Gains on Television as Public's Main News Source; More Young People Cite the Internet than TV *Pew Research Center*, January 4, 2011. 9p.

Designing Social Media Policies for Government by Jana Hrdinova & Natalie Helbig. *Brookings*, January 2011. 9p.

65% of Internet Users Have Paid for Online Content by Jim Jansen. *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, December 30, 2010. 13p.

The Broadband Technology Opportunities Program: Expanding Broadband Access and Adoption in Communities across America: Overview of Grant Awards *National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Dept of Commerce*, 2010. 28p. **See also**

Public's Top Stories of the Decade: 9/11 and Katrina *Pew Research Center*, December 30, 2010.

THE ARTS & CULTURE

My Town: Writers on American Cities *U.S. Dept of State, IIP*, November 2010.

In this online book, 12 American authors describe how the U.S. cities where they live contribute to their creativity. Pete Hamill offers a touching reminiscence of growing up in New York, *Washington Post* critic and Jonathan Yardley introduces the reader to his home town of Baltimore. Also featured are portraits of Boston, Houston, Atlanta, Chicago, New Orleans, Memphis, Miami and Washington DC.

Becoming American: Beyond the Melting Pot *eJournal USA*, December 2010.

The United States, a nation of immigrants, is often referred to as the "Great Melting Pot", a metaphor that connotes the blending of many cultures, languages and religions to form a single national identity. But this metaphor fails to capture the slow, complex and frequently turbulent process by which immigrants of diverse backgrounds and beliefs join U.S. society, even as they transform it. A look at three U.S. communities today.

Generations 2010 by Kathryn Zickuhr. *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, December 16, 2010.

Surprising trends and convergences in the relative use of internet applications by various U.S. age groups.

Literary New York – on *America.gov*, 2010.

City Lights: New York's Long Literary Line by Stefan Kanfer. *City Journal*, Autumn 2010.

Key Facts on Foundations' Public Policy-Related Activities *The Foundation Center*, December 2010. 3p.

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